

SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN BUILDING
CONSTITUTION AVENUE,
ISLAMABAD

E-MAIL: NADIA@LJCP.GOV.PK



PH: +92 (0)51 9201161
FAX: +92 (0)51 921 4797
CELL: +92 (0)3015673411

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NADIA IKRAM MALIK

Joint Secretary
Law & Justice Commission of Pakistan
Government of Pakistan

Press Release

The Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan (LJCP) in collaboration with the University of Oxford has organized a One-day Training Workshop on International Commercial Arbitration for the judicial officers of Pakistan including AJ&K in the Federal Judicial Academy, Islamabad (FJA). The Training Workshop started with recitation of the Holy Quran. Director General, FJA in his well coming address has stated that it is an honour for the FJA that LJCP and University of Oxford has selected this venue for the Training Workshop and feel great pleasure to be the host of the event. He has further extended his support that FJA is providing the all possible facilities to make the event successful; however, FJA is also committed for provision of any other need, if required. Professor Dr. Livia Holden in her introductory remarks has stated that this training one of the products of collaborated project in Indonesia and Pakistan about gender sensitization for judicial education funded by Global Challenges Research Fund-UK and fostered by Euro-Expert ERC funded project. She further stated this Training Workshop is being organized for the training of the judicial officers to impart the training for adjudication of the International Commercial Arbitration. She has informed that we are launching CULTEXP multilingual cross jurisdictional data base which consists upon judgements delivered in seventeenth different countries. Secretary, LJCP in his opening remarks stated that keeping in view that the International Commercial Arbitration and signing of commercial agreements are

ignored areas of litigation, so, there is dire need to introduce such areas before the judicial officers for their awareness. He further informed that in near future it will be need of the judicial officers to adjudicate the International Commercial Disputes; therefore, this event will definitely assist them to effectively discharge their judicial responsibility. After formal proceedings, Dr. Giorgio Fabio Colombo, University of Nagoya started first training session. He explained the definition and introduced the basic principles of international commercial arbitration and responded to the questions of the judicial officers. Afterwards the judicial officers are divided into three groups and discussed the case study and interaction between arbitration and courts.

In the concluding session the Chief Guest Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gulzar Ahmed, Senior Puisne Judge Supreme Court of Pakistan highlighted the importance of the International Commercial Arbitration and said that it is an important area which requires focus and training of the judicial officers. His Lordship expressed his hope that in future this training workshop will play key role in adjudication of disputes pertains to international commercial arbitration. His Lordship further emphasized that this sort of important trainings be given to the judicial officers in future regularly including also subject such as gender rights, violence against women and children and data base use.

Secretary, LJCP stated that this event has open a new avenue for the lawyers to practice and this is a time for the judicial officers, government departments and advocates to learn and must develop their skills in this area. He has also stressed that curriculum of legal education is also required to be amended by introducing of International Commercial Arbitration with the consultation of Pakistan Bar Council.

Dr. Livia Holden has launched the multilingual cross jurisdictional data base and gave the overview that the said data base created with the assistance of Europe expert team as well as Pakistan and Indonesia teams to empower both the legal profession and lay people to access law in all languages and across seventeen jurisdictions.

She hoped that trainees learned that the principles of international commercial arbitration are required priority in Pakistan and this new training which provided to them with the keys for successful learning. She wish for all participants that the University of Oxford and the LJCP may adopt this and other training packages collaboratively designed by the Euro Expert, cultural expertise for judicial education.

This press release can be downloaded from the website of the LJCP @ www.ljcp.gov.pk.

(Nadia Ikram Malik)
Joint Secretary Research